

health and appearance of trees, and safety.

The health of trees, he said, can be improved by (1) removing dead or decaying branches, thus preventing the entry of disease organisms into main branches or the stem; (2) thinning the crown to permit light and air circulation; (3) removing branches that cross and rub each other; and (4) removing branch stubs to prevent decay.

Consider the natural form of the tree in pruning to improve appearance, Snyder advised, since the natural form is the tree's most beautiful form. Except in formal plantings, avoid shaping by shearing, he suggested. For more symmetrical conifers, remove double leaders.

To improve safety conditions, it is important to remove broken or weak branches that might fall and endanger life, to remove branches that interfere with vision at street intersections, and to remove lower branches that interfere with traffic.

While removal of dead wood is one aspect of pruning that is concerned with both the health and the appearance of shade trees, don't be content with merely cutting off the offending branches. Determine the cause of dead wood and correct the cause if possible, Snyder urged. He listed these major causes of dead wood in shade trees: improper nutrition, soil compaction, fill around the tree, injury

to the root by construction, uncontrolled insect or disease injury.

Other speakers included Hugh Thompson, associate professor of entomology at Kansas State University; Bob Wright, Bachman's, Minneapolis; and University of Minnesota professors D. B. White and H. G. Johnson.

The annual Shade Tree Main-

tenance Short Course is an annual event on the University of Minnesota's St. Paul Campus. The course is planned for people professionally engaged in tree maintenance in parks, on public or private grounds. Sponsors of the event are the University's Department of Horticultural Science and the Agricultural Extension Service.

Danville Junior College Introduces

2-Year Ornamental Horticulture Course

A new two-year curriculum to prepare students for specific positions in businesses that require horticultural training, is being offered students this fall at Danville Junior College, Danville, Ill.

Supervisor of vocational agriculture, James Nickell, says the two-year curriculum is a post high school program encouraged by the Vocational Education Act of 1963.

Graduates of the program will be trained as semiprofessional workers to fill positions such as foremen, assistants, and technical workers. They will qualify for employment in such fields as turf management, greenhouse management, park management, floriculture and floral design, highway beautification, tree surgery, arboriculture, and landscape.

According to a study by the Illinois State Advisory Commit-

tee on Ornamental Horticulture, it was learned that if 300 students trained in horticulture were graduated each year for the next 15 years the demand for these technicians would not be met.

In addition to classroom training, students will engage in on-the-job training during summer months with area horticulture businesses. A high school degree is not necessary providing an entrance exam to the college is satisfactorily passed. Some scholarships for students entering the program will be provided by the Illinois Nurserymen's Association.

Persons interested in training for a career in ornamental horticulture can obtain complete information by writing to James Nickell, Supervisor, Vocational Agriculture, Danville Junior College, Danville, Ill.

"Pruning improves not only health, but appearance of trees as well," Dr. L. C. Snyder (second from left) tells this group at Minn. Tree Maintenance Short Course. Listeners are, from the left, Bob Wright of Minneapolis, Eugene Buechner and B. L. Woodward, both from the St. Paul Parks Dept. Snyder's pointers were programmed to come just before fall tree pruning season.



Thompson Mfg. Acquires Hayes

Thompson Mfg. Co., Los Angeles-based producer of lawn and garden sprinklers and turf irrigation systems, has acquired the Hayes Spray Gun Co., of Pasadena, manufacturer of hose sprayers for fertilizers and insecticides. Announcement was made jointly by Stephen F. Hinchliffe, Jr., president of Thompson, and Merle H. Banta, a Thompson officer and new president of Hayes.

Thompson Mfg. is located at 2251 E. 7th St., Los Angeles, Calif. The Hayes Spray Gun Co. is at 98 N. San Gabriel, Pasadena.